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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,927	12/27/2000	Toru Ueda	0033-0685P	3448
7590	03/09/2006			
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP				EXAMINER
P.O. Box 747				VENT, JAMIE J
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747				ART UNIT
				PAPER NUMBER
				2616

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/747,927	UEDA ET AL.	
	Examiner Jamie Vent	Art Unit 2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 16-41 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 16-41 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed December 21, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, as stated on Pages 2–4, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

In regards to Claims 16 and 18, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device; however fails to disclose a communication port for communicating with external apparatuses. Sakaegi et al discloses a communication portion within an external apparatus as seen in Figure 1a. The use of the communication port allows for the user to gain control of the system and to input desired scenes or images to be displayed and thereby giving more control of the recording/reproducing to the user as further described in Column 4 Lines 38+. Therefore, making it obvious to combine Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi to teach the limitation of "a communicating portion communicating with an external apparatus".

In regard to Claims 39, 40, and 41, Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi et al discloses a recording and reproducing device; however fails to disclose the recording

and reproducing device is connected through a network. Mincy et al discloses a recording/reproducing device wherein components are connected through a network as seen in Figure 4. The network system allows for a larger editing system that can be accessed through various components and users as further described in Column 2 Lines 47+ through Column 3 Lines 1-67. Therefore, making it obvious to combine Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi in further view of Mincy to teach the limitation of “connection through a network”.

On page 3 applicant argues that Yoshimura et al fails to teach the following limitation, “still image producing portion cuts out and records the still image by detecting of a sound multiplex mode” as recited in Claim 26. It is noted in Column 8 Lines 65+ through Column 9 Lines 1-18 the multiplexing mode is described which detects still images and thereby meets the limitation. Additionally, on page 3 applicant argues that Yoshimura in view of Sakaegi in further view of Mincy et al fails to teach the following limitation, “a recording and reproducing system wherein a video camera is used to reproduce and record video content as well as still pictures” as recited in Claim 40. It is noted that Mincy et al in Column 2 Lines 35+ discloses a system wherein a video camera reproduces content including still pictures and thereby meets the limitation. Although, all of applicants points are understood the examiner can not agree and the rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 16-38 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura et al (US 5,596,419) in view of Sakaegi et al (US 5,500,743).

[claim 16]

In regard to Claim 16, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device comprising:

- a still image recording portion recording a still image (figure 1 shows a still video recording/reproducing device as further explained in Column 4 Lines 4-16);
- a video recording portion recording a video (figure 1 shows a vtr which is used for video recording as further described in Column 3 Lines 55+);
- an information recording portion recording information on a correspondence image recording portion between the still image recorded by said still and the video recorded by said video recording portion (Column 4 Lines 5-33 describes the information from the image recording portion and the relation to the still image);
- transmitting one or a plurality of the still image, said still image recording portion, said video recording portion and said information recording portion (Column 8 Lines 5+ describes the transmitting of still images in accordance with the video signal); however, fails to discloses
 - a communicating portion communicating with an external apparatus.

Sakaegi et al discloses an image reproduction system wherein still images are reproduced in accordance to the video signal image as disclosed in Column 4 Lines 48+. Furthermore it is seen in Figure 1 a remote control 36 which is a communication port that allows for the user to input desired scenes or images to be displayed thereby giving more control of the recording/reproducing process to the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the video recording system which records still images and video signals, as disclosed by Yoshimura et al, and incorporate a system that has an external apparatus for communicating to the system, as disclosed by Sakaegi et al.

[claim 17]

In regard to Claim 17, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said command executing portion transmits the still image and the information respectively recorded by said still image recording portion (Column 8 Lines 18+) however, fails to disclose that the recording portion is through said communicating portion giving a still image transfer command. Sakaegi et al discloses a system wherein the user via a remote control provides the system input on the processing and displaying of still images. As shown in Figure 5 is the method chart that the user is given in order to process and display the desired still image as seen in Figures 3a-3c. This process of selecting still pictures allows for the user to have control over the desired recording/reproducing functions of the system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the video recording system which records still images and video signals, as disclosed by Yoshimura et al,

and incorporate a system that has an external apparatus for communicating the processing of still image pictures, as disclosed by Sakaegi et al.

[claim 18]

In regard to Claim 18, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said command executing portion transmits the still image recorded by said still image recording portion in accordance with a Direct Printing Protocol (Column 8 Lines 57+ through Column 9 Lines 1-18 describes the recording and transmitting the still images); however, fails to disclose the still image recording is in accordance with a Direct Printing Protocol. Sakaegi et al discloses a system, which incorporates a printer for printing of still images as seen in Figure 13 and described in Column 8 Lines 65+ through Column 9 Lines 1-8. It is further noted that a direct print protocol is needed to transfer data between a set top box and a printer due to the peer-to-peer transfer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a recording device, as disclosed by Yoshimura et al, and incorporate a system with a printer, as disclosed by Sakaegi et al, which allows for the user to efficiently print still images that have been recorded.

[claim 19]

In regard to Claim 19, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said command executing portion transmits the video data recorded by said video recording portion by an Audio Visual control (Figure 7 and 8 shows the transmitting of recording data by an audio visual control as further described in Column 7 Lines 50-61 and Column 8 Lines 19-44).

[claim 20]

In regard to Claim 20, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said information on the correspondence between the still image and the video includes information representing a reproduction position of the video (Column 3 Lines 54-58 describes the still images being representative images of the video as well as positioning of the video).

[claim 21]

In regard to Claim 21, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said information representing the reproduction position of the video designated by temporal information (Column 4 Lines 5-18 describes the information representing the position of the video).

[claim 22]

In regard to Claim 22, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device further comprising a searching portion searching and changing a reproduction starting point of the video based on information (Column 6 Lines 50+ describes the looking up of video from various points).

[claim 23]

In regard to Claim 23, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device further comprising a still image producing portion producing a still image by cutting out the still image from the video recorded by said video recording portion (Column 4 Lines 5-9 describes the producing of the still image).

[claim 24]

In regard to Claim 24, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said still image producing portion produces and records information on a correspondence between the still image and the video based on information dependent on the video (Column 3 Lines 54+ describes the still images that are dependent on the video signal).

[claim 25]

In regard to Claim 25 Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said still image producing portion cuts out the still image at a start of the video recording, after a prescribed time a prescribed from the start of the video recording or every period of time is elapsed (Column 4 Lines 57+ describes the timing of still images in correlation to the video).

[claim 26]

In regard to Claim 26, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said still image producing portion cuts out and records the still image by detecting a switching of a sound multiplex mode (Column 5 Lines 5-27 describes the image producing cuts that are detected from a multiplex mode).

[claim 27]

In regard to Claim 27, Yoshimura et al discloses a recording device wherein said still image recording portion, said video recording portion or said information recording portion records information on a recording medium which allows random access (Column 3 Lines 59+ describes the recording the signal onto the VTR which would allow for random access).

[claim 28]

In regard to Claim 28, Yoshimura et al discloses a reproducing device comprising:

- a still image display portion displaying a still image received (Figure 12 shows the still image display);
- a video display portion receiving a video corresponding to the still image displayed by said still image display portion through said communicating portion for display (Column 10 Lines 36+ describes the still images corresponding to the video signal which are displayed); however, fails to disclose a communicating portion communicating with an external apparatus.

Sakaegi et al discloses an image reproduction system wherein still images are reproduced in accordance to the video signal image as disclosed in Column 4 Lines 48+. Furthermore it is seen in Figure 1 a remote control 36 which is a communication port that allows for the user to input desired scenes or images to be displayed thereby giving more control of the recording/reproducing process to the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the video recording system which records still images and video signals, as disclosed by Yoshimura et al, and incorporate a system that has an external apparatus for communicating to the system, as disclosed by Sakaegi et al.

[claim 29]

In regard to Claim 29 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 17.

[claim 30]

In regard to Claim 30 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 18.

[claim 31]

In regard to Claim 31 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 18.

[claim 32]

In regard to Claim 32 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 20.

[claim 33]

In regard to Claim 33 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 21.

[claim 34]

In regard to Claim 34, Yoshimura et al discloses a reproducing device wherein said command issuing portion transmits said information on the correspondence between the still image data and the video with a video transfer command when said command issuing portion issues said video transfer command through said communicating portion, and said video display portion receives video communicating portion for display (Column 3 Lines 54+ describes the transmitting of still images that are dependent on the video).

[claim 35]

In regard to Claim 35 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 19.

[claim 36]

In regard to Claim 36 the limitations has been previously discussed in Claim 28.

[claim 37]

In regard to Claim 37, Yoshimura et al discloses a reproducing device wherein said command issuing portion issues a command of requesting transmission of videos corresponding to the still image through said communicating portion in an order of the

still images displayed onto said still image display portion (Figure 12 shows the still images that are displayed and processed and it is further described in Column 10 Lines 35+ the command issuing portion that requests the transmission of the still pictures).

[claim 38]

In regard to Claim 38, Yoshimura et al discloses a reproducing device further comprising a switching portion switching positions of the still images displayed on said still image display portion (Column 10 Lines 35+ describes the switching positions of the still images).

Claims 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura et al (US 5,596,419) in view of Sakaegi et al (US 5,500,743) in further view of Mincy et al (US 6,052,508).

[claim 39]

In regard to Claim 39, Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi et al discloses a recording and reproducing apparatus as disclosed in independent Claim 16; however fails to disclose the reproducing and recording device is connected through a network. Mincy et al discloses a recording/reproducing device wherein the components are connected through a network as seen in Figure 4. The connection of the system through a network allows for a larger editing system that can be accessed at various points and from various people. Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a recording and reproducing apparatus, as disclosed by

Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi et al and further incorporate the system to be placed on a network, as disclosed by Mincy et al.

[claims 40 & 41]

In regard to Claims 40 and 41, Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi et al discloses a recording and reproducing apparatus as disclosed in independent Claim 16; however, fails to disclose a video camera. Mincy et al discloses a recording and reproducing system wherein a video camera is used to reproduce and record video content as well as still pictures as disclosed in Column 2 Lines 35+. Thereby allowing editing of video content in a mobile unit (ie video camera). Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a recording and reproducing apparatus, as disclosed by Yoshimura et al in view of Sakaegi et al and further incorporate the system comprising a digital camera, as disclosed by Mincy et al.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

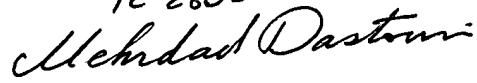
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 571-272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jamie Vent

MURAD DASTOURI
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